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law in their development amidst the congeries of law, morals, religion and custom in successive past epochs, is a huge and delicate task, which might well make the boldest historian halt." This task the author has performed so well that his work will be invaluable not only to students of the subject but to practical legislators who seek to draft codes that will remedy some of the glaring defects of American criminal procedure.

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BIGHAM, J. A. (Ed. by). *Select Discussions of Race Problems: A Collection of Papers of Especial Use in Study of Negro American Problems, with the Proceedings of the Twentieth Annual Conference for Study of Negro Problems held at Atlanta University, May 24, 1915.* Pp. 108. Price, 50 cents. Atlanta: The Atlanta University Press, 1916.

BONGER, WILLIAM ADRIAN. *Criminality and Economic Conditions.* (Trans. by Henry P. Orton.) Pp. xxix, 706. Price, \$5.50. Boston: Little, Brown and Company, 1916.

The author of this volume is probably correct in the assumption that the English-speaking countries have been influenced greatly by the work of the Italian School of Criminology and that the hereditary aspects of the subject have been overemphasized, but he is mistaken, we think, in his further assumption that his ideas about the ethology of crime will be unwelcomed by American scholars. On the contrary, any rational theory of causation appeals to the American mind and this masterful presentation of the economic factors of criminality will be accepted as a most valuable complement to the factors stressed by the Italian School. That which will be called in question is the contention that economic factors alone are sufficient to explain the phenomenon of crime. This the author does more by implication than by definite statement. With due allowance for this predisposition, no work has appeared in English of greater value in a generation. Beginning with a description and criticism of the various groups of writers which he designates as the Precursors, the Statisticians, the Italian and French Schools, the Bio-Socialists, the Spiritualists, etc., the author proceeds to his own explanation of the causes of crime which are inherent in our present Economic System. By a wealth of statistics and an analysis of social causes including a study of sex and the family, etc., he has in a most convincing manner revealed the effects of environment in producing crime. Elements neglected or slighted by previous authors are given their proper significance. The American Institute of Criminal Law and Criminology has rendered an invaluable service to the science of criminology by placing this book before the English-reading world. It ought to stand on the shelf beside Lombroso, Garofalo and Aschaffenberg in every collection of criminological literature in the country.

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